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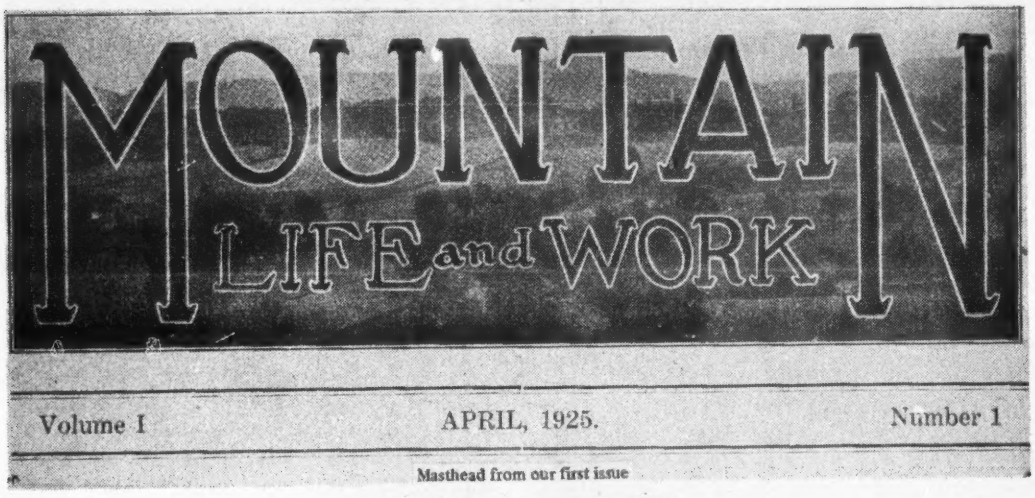

Masthead from our first issue

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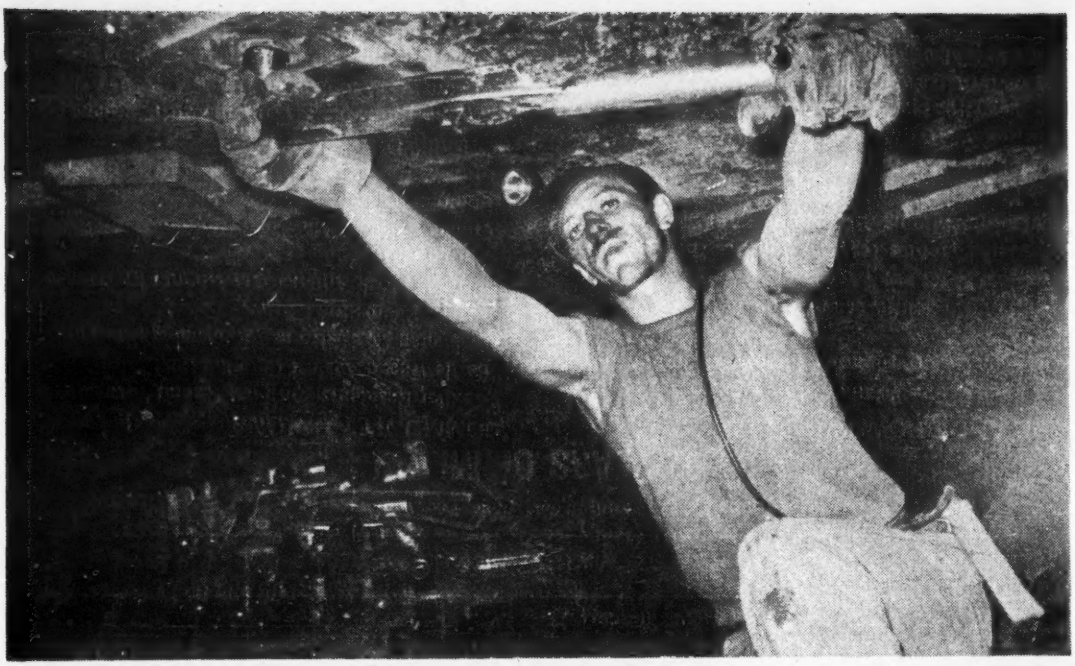

A roof-bolter machine operator torquing an installed roof bolt as a safety precaution. The June 1977 issue of *Mountain Life & Work* explained success in winning more miners safety rights after the Council of the Southern Mountains and the United Mine Workers of America sued the Department of the Interior.

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The Marshall Family, a bluegrass gospel singing group from Canal Winchester, Ohio, originally from Wayne County, West, Virginia, have traveled thousands of miles singing at festivals, schools, and churches. Many people consider the Marshalls to be the best gospel groups in the country. The family consists of 10 children, plus mom and pop. The most traveled of the group are (l to r) Pop, Chester, Gary, Dave, Judy, Ben. (See *MLW*, Sept., 1977).

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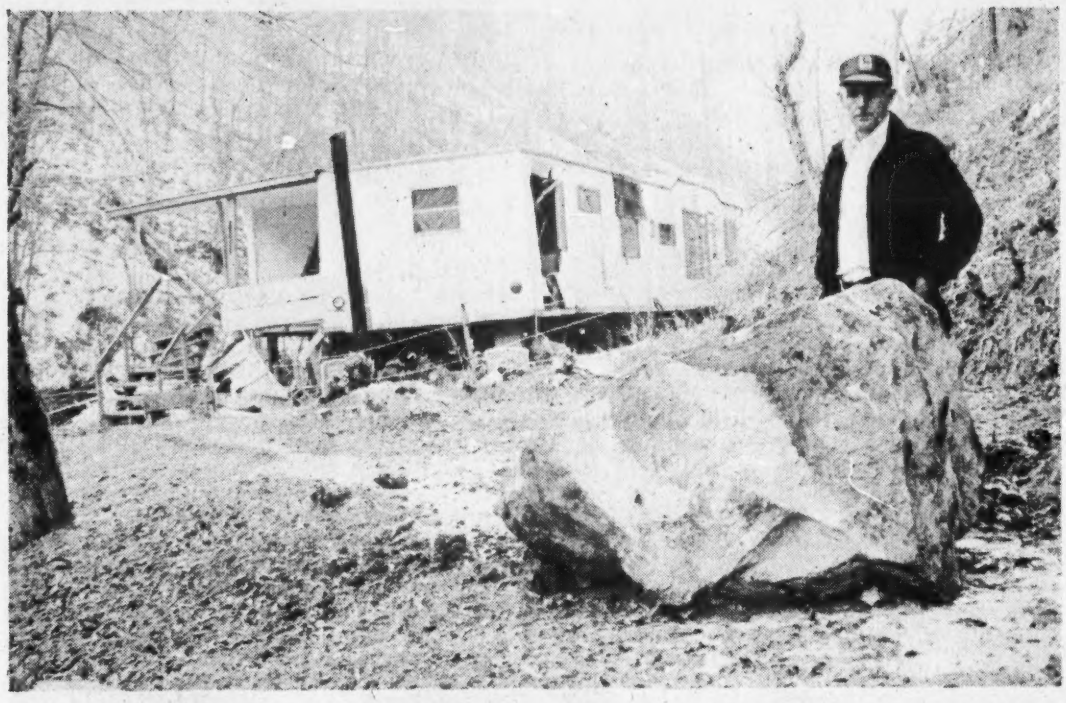
Although they had been questioned at length by Blue Diamond attorneys in pre-trial depositions, several of the widows prepared to testify in the Pikeville trial. Here, Debbie Turner and Reda Lawson talk with reporters outside the federal courthouse. (See Sept., 1977 *MLW*, which told the story of the trial).



Floyd Jude of Martin County, Kentucky is standing in the Jude Cemetery beside one of the boulders blasted from Mapco's Martiki Strip mine. On February 4, 1977, a boulder tore through his mobile home in Martin county. (See *MLW*, Feb.-Mar., 1977 for the story).

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Only 7% of the Coal Miners in West Virginia are women, in a state where women constitute 32% of the workforce. In October, 1977, *MLW* featured an article on the problems women have finding employment in the mines.